

4 JAN 1974

Mr. William J. Cotter  
Chief Postal Inspector  
United States Postal Service  
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Cotter:

I am happy to approve your request for training of 24 Postal Inspectors in bomb threat and disposal familiarization. The letter and parcel bomb threat is international in scope and we would be remiss in our obligations if we did not share our knowledge and experience, particularly of the foreign threat, with those of your people charged with safeguarding the mails. As you request, demonstration of improvised letter bomb containers will be made a point of the training, inasmuch as we have a similar interest in such devices for our overseas facilities, and have been conducting tests and trials to this end.

The Office of Technical Service estimates that a one week course at our domestic training site will meet your objectives. While the week of 4 February is suggested as the earliest suitable date for this training, please understand that specific dates may be subject to change should urgent Agency priorities arise.

25X1

[REDACTED] concerning  
details of scheduling, travel arrangements and security  
briefings.

25X1

Sincerely,  
/s/ W. E. Colby

W.E. Colby  
Director

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73- 7738

CHIEF POSTAL INSPECTOR  
Washington, D. C.

December 19, 1973

Mr. William Colby  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

During the past year, the mails throughout the world have been carrying numerous letter bombs with the Black September Group of the Palestine Guerrilla Movement mailing 227 letter bombs and the Irish Republic Army mailing 41 letter bombs. Over 50 of these bombs were addressed to people in the United States, one of which exploded in the Fordham Postal Station in New York injuring a mail clerk while another exploded in the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., resulting in serious injury to a clerk employed there.

In addition to the politically-motivated letter bombs, the United States Postal Service has been plagued with periodic mailings of parcel bombs, one of which exploded in the South Postal Annex in Boston in August 1973, resulting in injury to 3 mail handlers and, only a month ago, 3 bombs were mailed in Denver but fortunately were discovered prior to detonation.

In order to cope with the bomb threat, we have furnished some of our Postal Inspectors with training in bomb investigations primarily directed toward bomb scene analysis, collection and preservation of evidence. We would like to arrange further training to increase their competence.

It is requested that the Office of Technical Services in your Agency provide:

- (1) Bomb threat and bomb disposal familiarization for a group of 24 Postal Inspectors.
- (2) Testing of experimental letter bomb containers.

T-B

I would be most appreciative of your approval of this request which will be very helpful in providing protection not only for our people handling the mails but for the people to whom these bombs are addressed.

Mr. Charles J. Ryan, Manager, Technical Services Division, telephone 961-8450, can be contacted concerning details relative to this request.

Sincerely,

William J. Cotter  
Chief Inspector

## EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

## Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI				
3	S/MC				
4	DDS&T	X			
5	DDI				
6	DDM&S		X		
7	DDO		X		
8	D/DCI/IC				
9	D/DCI/NIO				
10	OGC		X		
11	OLC				
12	IG		X		
13	Compt				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/S		X		
16	DTR				
17	Asst/DCI				
18	AO/DCI				
19					
20					
21					
22					

SUSPENSE 28 December2 Jan 73 - part

Date

Remarks:

Please prepare response for DCI signature.



12/20/73

Date

STAT